

# Texas Division of Emergency Management State Situation Report

## **New Information in Blue Text**

<b>Event Name</b>	1t Name 22-0009 Wildfire Outbreak 17MAR				
Date	April 8, 2022				
Time	9:00 AM				
Operational Period	8:00 AM April 7 to 8:00 AM April 8, 2022				
Report Number	22				

Regions Affected				
TDEM Regions Affected	1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6			
DDCs Active	1, 4A, 5, 6, 7, 19 & 20			

**STATEWIDE CURRENT SITUATION:** Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) received 29 new requests for assistance with fire suppression operations on Thursday, April 7. Elevated to critical fire weather conditions are forecasted today from the Texas Panhandle through Central Texas into Southeast Texas. There are currently 150 Texas counties out of 254 with a Burn Ban in effect.



On April 1, Governor Abbott amended the Disaster Declaration, adding Andrews, Aransas, Archer, Bee, Bell, Borden, Bosque, Brewster, Cameron, Coke, Concho, Cooke, Crane, Crockett, Culberson, Dawson, Dimmit, Duval, Ector, Edwards, Gaines, Garza, Hemphill, Hidalgo, Howard, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kimble, Kleberg, Live Oak, Martin, Maverick, McCulloch, Menard, Midland, Nueces, Palo Pinto, Parker, Pecos, Presidio, Reagan, Real, Refugio, Roberts, Terrell, Tom Green, Upton, Wichita, Willacy, Winkler, Wise, Zapata, and Zavala counties.

On March 29, Governor Abbott encouraged Texans to remain vigilant and informed on weather conditions as fire danger and severe weather threaten the state. (<u>Complete Statement Here</u>)

On March 27, Governor Abbott amended the Disaster Declaration, adding Medina County.

On March 21, Governor Abbott amended the Disaster Declaration, adding Blanco, Erath, Hood, Runnels, and Starr counties.

On March 18, Governor Abbott issued a Disaster Declaration due to an imminent threat of widespread or severe damage, injury, or loss of life or property in Brooks, Brown, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Grayson, Mason, Potter, Randall, and Williamson Counties.

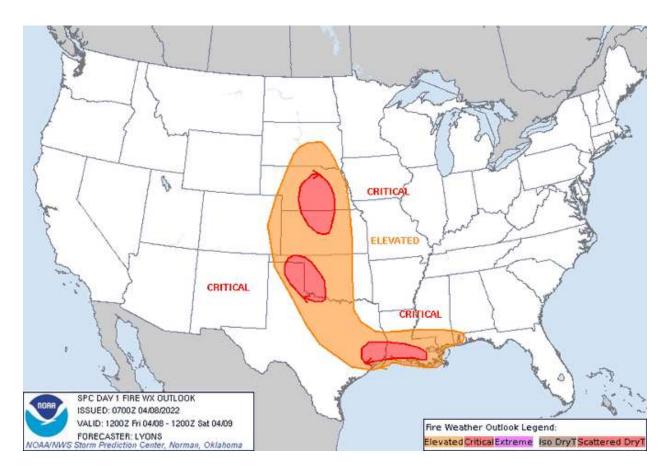
On March 16, Governor Abbott directed TDEM to activate additional state resources as escalated fire weather conditions continue to impact the state this week.

On March 15, Governor Abbott directed TDEM to mobilize state resources as Texas faces increased fire weather conditions this week.

Access damage surveys, find an evacuation shelter, and view wildfire resources Visit our March Wildfires Disaster page for more information: <a href="https://www.tdem.texas.gov/disasters/2022-march-wildfires">https://www.tdem.texas.gov/disasters/2022-march-wildfires</a>

#### **WEATHER:**

NWS Fire Weather Outlook Valid: 7AM 4/8 to 7AM 4/9.



**Day 1 Fire Weather Outlook:** ...CRITICAL FIRE WEATHER AREA FOR SOUTHEAST TEXAS AND SOUTHERN LOUISIANA...

## ...Synopsis...

A deep upper trough over the Great Lakes will drift slowly to the east as a strong mid-level jet along the backside of the trough overspreads the central CONUS. A second trough and strong mid-level flow will move onshore across the Pacific Northwest and northern Great Basin later tonight. Gusty northwesterly winds will be widespread from the northern and central Plains to the Gulf Coast, supporting a broad area of Elevated to Critical fire weather conditions. Fire concerns will slowly diminish overnight as southerly winds return.

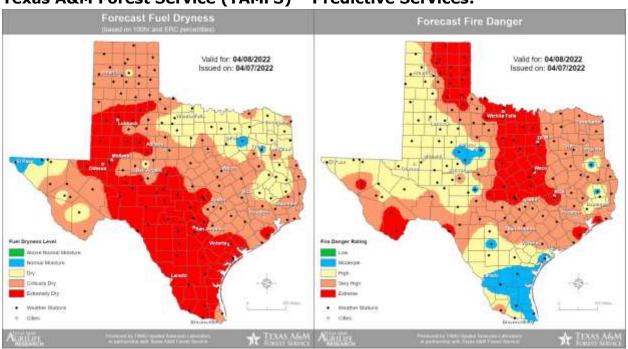
## ...Western Oklahoma and the eastern Texas Panhandle...

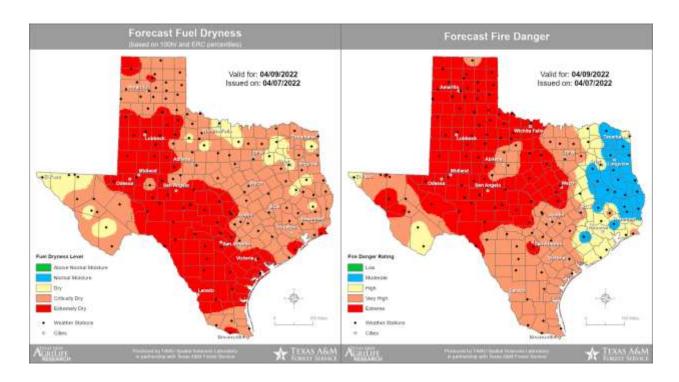
Similar to the central Plains, widespread gusty northwesterly flow will continue across the TX panhandle and western OK. Enhanced by deep vertical mixing along the western periphery of the jet aloft, sustained winds of 20-25 with gusts of 30-35 mph will likely support widespread fire weather concerns within sub 20% RH. Given large areas of exceptionally dry fuels where multiple fires have occurred over the preceding days, several hours of critical conditions are likely.

## ...Southeast Texas and southern Louisiana...

Strong northwesterly flow will continue along the backside of the upper low from the Plains to the Gulf Coast. Unusually dry and windy conditions will extend eastward across the Mississippi Delta into portions of the Southeast where, despite recent rainfall, volatile fuels are in place. Widespread surface humidity near and below 30%, along with surface winds of 10-15 mph will support a broad area of fire weather concerns from east TX, across LA and into southern MS and AL. The highest confidence in sustained 20+ mph surface winds is expected beneath the core of the upper jet across southeast TX and southwestern LA. Here, hi-res ensemble and deterministic guidance show several hours of favorable overlap between strong winds and low humidity, supporting Critical fire weather concerns.

# **Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS) - Predictive Services:**





### **OPERATIONAL PRIORITIES:**

- 1. Protect life and property.
- 2. Support rapid & effective response and recovery operations.
- 3. Collect and disseminate accurate incident information to improve decision-making.
- 4. Accurately track incident costs associated with assigned resources for cost recovery.

**Region 1** (Includes DDCs 4 Garland, 4 Hurst, 5, 6, and 22)

**DDC 4 – Hurst** (Includes: Denton, Erath, Hood, Johnson, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Tarrant, and Wise Counties).

DDC 4A Hurst raised their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions).

**DDC 5 – Mt. Pleasant** (Includes: Bowie, Cass, Delta, Franklin, Hopkins, Lamar, Morris, Red River, and Titus Counties)

DDC 5 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

Cass County: Cass 1410: 1 acre – 100% contained.

<u>Cass 1746</u>: 3 acres – 100% contained. <u>Cass 1738</u>: 2 acres – 100% contained. Red River County: Red River 1453: 1 acre - 100% contained.

**DDC 6 – Tyler** (Includes: Anderson, Camp, Cherokee, Gregg, Harrison, Henderson, Marion, Panola, Rains, Rusk, Smith, Upshur, Van Zandt, and Wood Counties)

DDC 6 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

**Anderson County:** Anderson 0206: 8 acres – 100% contained.

Camp County: Camp 1549: 10 acres – 100% contained.

**Gregg County:** Gregg 1521: 28 acres – 100% contained.

<u>Gregg 1534</u>: 4 acres – 100% contained. <u>Gregg 1715</u>: 1.5 acres – 100% contained. <u>Gregg 1947</u>: 5 acres – 100% contained.

**Harrison County:** <u>Harrison 1027</u>: 2 acres – 100% contained.

Harrison 1906: 25 acres – 100% contained. Harrison 2404: 6 acres - 100% contained.

Marion County: Marion 1845: 5 acres - 50% contained.

**Panola County**: Panola 1612: 5 acres – 100% contained.

Rusk County: Rusk 1555: 1 acre – 100% contained.

Rusk 1642: 1 acre – 100% contained. Rusk 1818: 3 acres – 100% contained.

**Upshur County:** Upshur 1353: 1 acre – 100% contained.

Upshur 1724: 0.5 acres – 100% contained.

Region 2 (Includes DDCs 13, 14, 15, 16A, 16B, 16C, and 16D)

**DDC 14 – Lufkin** (Includes: Angelina, Houston, Nacogdoches, Newton, Polk, Sabine, San Augustine, San Jacinto, Shelby, Trinity, and Tyler Counties)

**Shelby County:** Shelby 2443: 10 acres – 100% contained.

**Tyler County**: Tyler 1414: 5 acres – 100% contained.

**DDC 15 – Beaumont** (Includes: Hardin, Jasper, Jefferson and Orange Counties)

Hardin County: Hardin 2451: 11 acres – 100% contained.

**Jasper County:** Jasper 2463: 2 acres – 100% contained.

Region 3 (Includes DDCs 19, 20, 21, and 24)

**DDC 19 – Laredo** (Includes: Jim Hogg, Starr, Webb, and Zapata Counties)

DDC 19 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

**DDC 20 – Corpus Christi** (Includes: Aransas, Bee, Brooks, Duval, Jim Wells, Kenedy, Kleberg, Live Oak, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio Counties)

DDC 20 increased their readiness level to Level III (Increased Readiness Level).

Region 4 (Includes DDCs 8, 9A, 9B and 10)

**DDC 8 – El Paso** (Includes: Brewster, Culberson, El Paso, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, and Presidio)

**Brewster County**: Paisino: 33 acres – 100% contained.

Region 5 (Includes DDCs 1, 2, 3, and 7)

**DDC 1 – Amarillo** (Includes: Armstrong, Briscoe, Carson, Castro, Childress, Collingsworth, Dallam, Deaf Smith, Donley, Gray, Hall, Hansford, Hartley, Hemphill, Hutchinson, Lipscomb, Moore, Ochiltree, Oldham, Parmer, Potter, Randall, Roberts, Sherman, Swisher, and Wheeler Counties)

DDC 1 activated to Level III at 10:00 AM on March 28.

**Gray County**: Sand Creek: 4,480 acres – 100% contained.

Wheeler County: Britt: 8,152 acres - 75% contained.

**DDC2 – Lubbock** (Includes: Bailey, Cochran, Crosby, Dickens, Floyd, Garza, Hockley, Hale, King, Lamb, Lubbock, Lynn, Motley, Terry, and Yoakum Counties)

**Yoakum County:** Singing Yucca: 701 acres – 100% contained.

**DDC 3 – Wichita Falls** (Includes: Archer, Baylor, Clay, Cottle, Foard, Hardeman, Jack, Montague, Wichita, Wilbarger, and Young Counties)

Wichita County: Peanut: 14.2 acres – 100% contained.

**DDC 7 – Abilene** (Includes: Brown, Callahan, Coleman, Comanche, Eastland, Fisher, Haskell, Jones, Kent, Knox, Mitchell, Nolan, Runnels, Scurry, Shackelford, Stephens, Stonewall, Throckmorton, and Taylor Counties).

DDC 7 remains at Readiness Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) for wildfire activities.

**Stonewall County**: Muddslinger: 39 acres – 100% contained.

**Region 6** (Includes DDCs 11, 12, 17, 18A, 18B, and 23)

**DDC 11** – Waco (Includes: Bosque, Freestone, Hill, Limestone, and McLennan Counties)

McLennan County: Quail: 50 acres – 90% contained.

<u>VM</u>: 18.3 acres – 100% contained.

**DDC 12** – Austin (Includes: Blanco, Bastrop, Burnette, Caldwell, Fayette, Hays, Lee, Llano, Travis, and Williamson Counties)

**Hays County:** <u>Valley Spring</u>: 50 acres – 60% contained.

**DDC 18A** – San Antonio (Includes: Bandera, Comal, Frio, Gillespie, Guadalupe, Kendall, Kerr, and Medina Counties)

**Medina County**: Real Medina: 3 acres and 100% contained.

**DDC 23 – Killeen** (Includes: Bell, Coryell, Hamilton, Lampasas, Milam, Mills and San Saba Counties)

**Coryell County:** Crittenberg Complex – 33,175 acres – 100% contained.

## **RESPONDING STATE AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS**

**Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM)** – Regional staff have been deployed to impacted areas to assist local officials in damage assessment and identification of needs. The SOC continues to facilitate information sharing and the coordination of response and recovery operations.

**TDEM Communications Coordination Group (CCG):** Communications platforms are being identified for possible support if required.

**TDEM Disaster Recovery Task Force (DRTF):** DRTF HQ staff continue to support mass care at the SOC and actively monitoring the weather situation. DRTF regional staff continue to support local jurisdictions affected by wildfires with damage assessments and organizing VOAD support.

**TDEM Mass Care:** State partners are supporting local jurisdictions from the wildfires.

**TDEM State Voluntary Agency Liaison (VAL):** Disaster non-profits and Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters are actively deployed and supporting jurisdictions in TDEM Regions 1, 2, 5 and 6. Planning meetings between local jurisdictions and disaster nonprofits for establishing Multi Agency Resource Centers are ongoing.

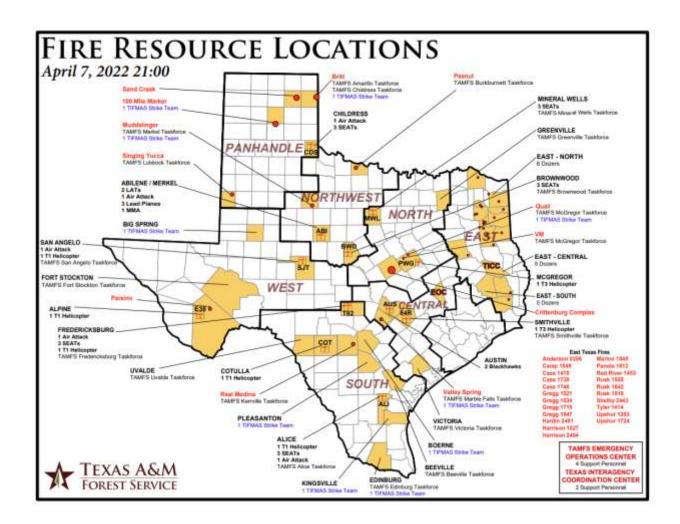
## **Texas Emergency Management Assistance Team (TEMAT):**

The DRTF HQ staff continue to support mass care at the SOC. DRTF regional staff continue to support local jurisdictions affected by wildfires with damage assessments and organizing VOAD support.

**Texas A&M Agrilife Extension Service (Agrilife):** AgriLife continues to maintain situational awareness of wildfire incidents across the state.

Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)/Texas A&M Public Works Response Team (TX-PWRT): One TEEX/TX-PWRT personnel managing ESF 3 Public Works and Engineering at the Remote SOC in Austin.

**Texas A&M Forest Service (TAMFS):** TAMFS received 29 new requests for assistance with fire suppression operations on Thursday, April 7. Incident Updates can be found here: https://inciweb.nwcq.gov/.



**Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC):** The PUC continues to provide a liaison to the SOC and is monitoring for any outages or other issues with electricity providers. Restoring service where practical behind the fire(s).

**Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC):** The RRC will continue to work with natural gas service providers throughout this event.

**Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC):** TAHC continues to maintain situational awareness.

**Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ):** TCEQ has staff available to assist local governments with any air/water/waste related issues including drinking water/wastewater issues and/or emergency response activities.

**Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA)**: TDA continues to staff the Remote SOC as needed as part of the ESF-11 Team. STAR Funds accepting donations and requests for financial assistance.

Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) – Emergency Medical Task Force (EMTF): Three Wildland Fire Packages are on standby from EMTF's 1, 2, 7, 8 & 9. Wildland Fire Packages are on awareness from EMTF's 4, 6 & 11.

**Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT):** TxDOT is staffing the remote SOC.

**Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS):** Region 6 THP San Antonio is providing personnel in Medina County to conduct roving patrol in the multiple subdivisions that were evacuated. Assisting with reentry by residents for the purpose of escorted damage assessment. Region 5 THP Eastland is providing security at the RSA in Eastland. THP personnel also providing roving/patrol security in Carbon.

**Texas Military Department (TMD):** TMD will support Texas A&M Forest Service in suppressing wildland fires in Texas. TMD has activated 1 Medium Rotary Wing MRP to provide direct support to TFS with fire suppression capability in response to critical fire weather. TMD has activated 16 personnel and 2 aircraft in support of 22-0009 Wildfire Outbreak 17MAR.

**Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD):** TPWD has been tasked to provide two firefighting brush trucks.

## **STATE RESOURCES COMMITTED**

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TDEM DRTF	DRTF HQ Staff	2		Assigned	R-SOC
Agrilife, TAMUS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TAMFS	Large Air Tanker (LAT)		2	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Aerial Supervision Aircraft (AA)		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Lead Plane		3	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Multi Mission Aircraft		1	Available	Abilene
TAMFS	Type I Helicopter		1	Available	Alice
TAMFS	AA		1	Available	Alice

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (SEATs)		3	Available	Alice
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Alpine
TAMFS	SEATS		3	Available	Brownwood
TAMFS	AA		1	Available	Childress
TAMFS	SEATs		3	Available	Childress
TAMFS	AA		1	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	SEATs		3	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Fredericksburg
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Available	McGregor
TAMFS	Single Engine Air Tanker (Fire Boss)		3	Available	Mineral Wells
TAMFS	AA		1	Available	San Angelo
TAMFS	Type I Helicopter		1	Available	San Angelo
TAMFS	Type 3 Helicopter		1	Available	Smithville
TAMFS	Type 1 Helicopter		1	Available	Cotulla
TAMFS	TAMFS Taskforce	13 Taskforces		Available	Various
TAMFS	Dozer/Tractor Plow		23	Available	Various
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Strike Team (ST)	25	5	Assigned	Muddslinger Fire
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Marble Falls
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Edinburg
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Britt Fire
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Pleasanton
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Assigned	Quail Fire
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Assigned	Britt Fire
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Boerne
TIFMAS	TIFMAS ST	25	5	Available	Kingsville
TIFMAS	TIFMAS Coordinators	2		Available	College Station & Merkel
TIFMAS	Overhead	2		Available	Mineral Wells & Brownwood
TEEX/TX- TF1 & 2	ESF 9 SOC LNO	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TEEX/TX- PWRT	SOC Liaison	1	1	Assigned	R-SOC

Agency	Resource Kind and Type	Personnel	Equip	Status	Location
TAHC	SOC Representative	1		Assigned	R-SOC
DSHS EMTF	SOC Liaison	1		Available	R-SOC
DSHS EMTF	Wildland Fire Pkg	3		Standby	EMTF's 1, 2, 7, 8 & 9
PUC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
RRC	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TCEQ	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TCEQ	DDEOC Liaison	1		Assigned	Abilene
TDA	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TxDOT	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TxDOT	Fuel Support	8		Assigned	Kinney, Real and Hemphill Counties
TxDOT	Light Towers		2	Assigned	Eastland County
TXDPS	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC
TMD	Rotary Wing (Medium MRP)	16	2	Assigned	Austin
TPWD	SOC Liaison	1		Assigned	R-SOC

**FINAL COMMENTS:** The State Operations Center (SOC) remains at Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) for COVID-19 pandemic response with additional staffing for Wildfire Outbreak response and recovery. The Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) continues to monitor these situations and will provide additional situation reports as needed.

The four levels of SOC activation are:

Level I (Emergency Conditions)

Level II (Escalated Response Conditions) Level III (Increased Readiness Conditions)

Level IV (Normal Conditions)

This Situation Report can be found on the TDEM webpage at: <a href="https://tdem-web.webflow.io/response/state-operations-center#tab-2">https://tdem-web.webflow.io/response/state-operations-center#tab-2</a>

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